

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, the current administration has dictated that the Environmental Protection Agency is to unilaterally institute regulations without seeking congressional approval. South Carolina energy producers have been forced to expedite the closing of 12 coal facilities, which has driven up energy costs for consumers, has destroyed jobs, and has made our workers less competitive. Earlier this month, the EPA acted alone again by proposing new regulations.

This week, I spearheaded a letter to the President and EPA Administrator, which was signed by other members of the South Carolina delegation, that supported legislative review. The American people deserve to have a voice in these new policies to promote jobs and lower energy costs.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism.

My sympathy to Sarah Clarkson and her family of Columbia, South Carolina, on the death yesterday of her husband, A. Crawford Clarkson, Jr.—a true southern gentleman of Scottish heritage, a naval officer awarded the Order of the Palmetto by Governor Carroll Campbell.

A GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN

(Ms. CHU asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. CHU. Mr. Speaker, yet again, House Republicans have taken us down to the wire—refusing to pass a budget or to pay our bills on time.

As The Wall Street Journal asked recently of the GOP: “Are you nuts?”

If their antics force the government to shut down, our military, including people serving overseas right now, will not be paid on time. If they default on our bills, 10 million Americans won't receive their Social Security checks on time, and families will pay higher interest rates on their mortgages, loans, and credit cards. The last time Republicans took us to the brink, the S&P downgraded our credit rating. If the GOP doesn't compromise, they could trigger a worldwide financial crisis and cause long-term economic damage.

Since when have these cutthroat tactics been an acceptable way to govern? The answer is: they are not.

DELAY, DEFUND, REPEAL, AND REPLACE OBAMACARE

(Mrs. BLACKBURN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, it's interesting what brings us here to the House floor this Saturday morning as we are looking at a continuing resolution to fund the government and as we are looking at ways to address what is happening with ObamaCare—where 17 percent of our Nation's economy is being nationalized and federalized.

Those are concerns that we are hearing from our constituents. They do not want ObamaCare to be put into action, and they do not want these insurance exchanges to be stood up and put into action. There are a lot of good reasons why.

First of all, they are not ready. That's why we need to delay this for 1 year. Delay it. We know that there are problems with the exchanges. We know that there are problems with all of the interactive technologies. We know that ObamaCare has already missed over half of its deadlines.

Why would you move forward on a program that is not ready for prime time?

Delay, defund, repeal, replace. That is what we need to do with ObamaCare.

THE AMERICAN PEOPLE WANT COMPROMISE

(Mr. BUTTERFIELD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, Republican extremists have put the Federal Government on the brink of a shutdown in less than 3 days. On yesterday, the Senate sent over a resolution that funds the government through November 15 using the sequester level of \$986 billion.

What is the Republican leadership going to do with this resolution that will keep the lights on through November 15?

Are you going to continue to listen to the 40–50 ultraconservatives in your Conference whose agenda is to disparage President Obama and hold us hostage until we gut the Affordable Care Act, as the gentlelady from Tennessee just made reference to, and make deeper cuts that hurt the American people?

Is this where we are headed?

I pray for reasonableness on the part of my Republican colleagues. I know it's not all Republicans who are swinging the wrecking ball, but it's a critical mass within the Republican ranks that is beyond reason.

A very sad day in American history is upon us.

I urge Speaker BOEHNER to listen to voices of reason in his Conference and to pull together like-minded Republicans who can join with like-minded Democrats and get this done. The American people want compromise. They want it today.

THE PRESIDENT WILL NOT NEGOTIATE OR COMPROMISE

(Ms. FOXX asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, a “compromise” is an “agreement reached by each side making concessions,” but how can we reach a compromise if President Obama isn't even willing to negotiate?

The President has said he will not negotiate raising the debt ceiling even

though every major attempt to deal with the deficit over the last 30 years has been tied to the debt limit. He will not negotiate delaying the individual mandate even though he delayed the employer mandate until 2015. He will not negotiate repealing the medical device tax even though 33 Democrats voted to do precisely that.

However, he is willing to negotiate with labor unions and special interests over their objections to ObamaCare. He is willing to negotiate with dictators who use chemical weapons against their own citizens. He is willing to negotiate with Iran.

He is just not willing to negotiate with Congress, and he is not willing to listen to the American people, who are demanding a reprieve from his half-baked health care law and real solutions to America's debt and deficit problems.

COMPROMISE, NOT A SHUTDOWN

(Mrs. BEATTY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. BEATTY. Mr. Speaker, Congress is faced with much unfinished business—a budget that needs to be passed, a sequester that needs to be repealed, and a debt limit that needs to be lifted.

I remind my Republican colleagues that citizens want us united. They want compromise, not to be shut down.

If the United States defaults on its debt, the results could be devastating. A default could mean 3.4 million veterans not receiving disability benefits; drug reimbursements for Medicare could stop; and in the first week, 10 million Americans would not receive their Social Security—but in these frightening times, all hope is not lost.

John Hogan, founder of TeenForce, which is an enterprise dedicated to solving the youth employment crisis in America, recently received the White House Champions of Change award—from the President of these United States—for contributions to the administration's Youth Jobs program.

John and his family are here today. Let John and other “champions of change” serve as an example to us all—that in hard times, if we work together, if we compromise, we can make a difference.

OBAMACARE

(Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, we are just 3 days away from October 1—the day ObamaCare's health care exchanges are scheduled to open. Yet every constituent phone call, news headline, and report I come across further proves that this law is simply unaffordable and unworkable.

On Thursday, at 11:22 a.m., President Obama said: